Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image/609491150

Downloaded on Apr 21, 2021

Eldridge Fugitive Taken In Robbery

Dangerous Psychopath Caught By Crescent City Cops As He Tries to Break Into Home

Recapture of William P. Young, 20, one of three psychopathic delinquents who escaped from the Sonoma State Home at Eldridge last May, was announced today by Dr. Marshall Porter, head of the home.

Dr. Porter described the captured fugitive as "definitely extremely dangerous."

He said that Young was picked up by the Crescent City, Calif., police, according to a report from the state criminal identification and investigation office in Sacramento. The CII teletyped a routine identification on Young to "all points" this morning and the State Home acknowledged.

DR. PORTER said that the Crescent City police had been asked to hold Young until the Humboldt county sheriff could return the fugitive to Eldridge.

In a telephone interview, however, Chief of Police Diego Hoyer of Crescent City told the Evening Press that he had received no hold order on Young as yet. He blamed difficulty in wire transmission. The Crescent City police chief said he was on the point of releasing Young, who had been picked up on suspicion of attempting to break into a residence in the northern California coast city.

When told by the Evening Press that Young was reputed to be a "dangerous psychopath," however Chief Hoyer said he was going to hold the escaped mental home inmate.

CHIEF HOYER said Young was captured by Crescent City night patrolman Cecil Bales on the night of June 9 while the mental patient was crouching under a residence window "in suspicious circumstances." The police chief said he believed Young was planning on breaking into the residence which was occupied by a sleeping Crescent City family.

The chief voiced the opinion that the sleeping family "probably had had a narrow escape from tragedy" in Young's timely capture. He said he had not known that Young was a mental case.

Two of the three murderers and a third "dangerous sex offender" held at the Sonoma State Home at Eldridge will be transferred today to the Mendocino State hospital at Talmadge, Dr. Porter announced earlier.

"Two are psychopathic delinquents of the most dangerous type," Dr. Porter said, "and the sex offender is classed as mentally defective. Their transfer increases our security, but decreases security at Talmadge. The Mendocino home must move three patients from its criminal ward to make room for our patients."

DR. PORTER described the nature of the offenses by the persons being moved to explain their selection. He said one, 19 years old, was committeed from Los Angeles county with a long history of burglaries and that the patient had killed a man while committing a burglary.

The second murderer, 18 years old, was committed from Santa Barbara county, Dr. Porter said. "He murdered a man who tried to stop him from stealing a motor scooter," the doctor said.

The third patient being transferred was released from San Quentin in 1937 and committed to the Sonoma State Home in 1938 from Alameda county, Dr. Porter said.

"HE HAS A LONG record of sex offenses and is considered dangerous," the home director said. "He is an older man, 35."

Dr. Porter explained that the third murderer, the one not being transferred, is not considered as dangerous. He was committed after stabbing a man in a drinking fight in Sacramento two years ago.

"There are no other known murderers in our institution," Dr. Porter said.

The doctor said that up to 12 patients may be moved under present conditions.

"THERE ARE legal technicalities in getting patients transferred to state prisons," Dr. Porter said, "and we are not sure that we can do it. We have 3,200 patients here and almost 3,100 are not locked up. It's a pretty difficult thing to say that none of those 3,100-odd patients won't walk off the grounds today and what possible trouble they may cause if they do escape."

Meanwhile, Rudolph Wright, 19, whose escape and murder of Paul Zimmerman touched off the firworks at the state home, was arraigned in justice court here today on murder charges.

THE ACCUSED slayer, handcuffed to Deputy Sheriff Robert Dollar, sat sullen and silent as Justice of the Peace L. E. Fulwider set the date for preliminary hearing for 10 a. m. June 28.

The Sonoma State Home inmate escaped and shot the assistant gardener at the home after clubbing Mrs. Zimmerman with a gun stolen from the victim's home. He will be represented by Clifford Lewis, a Sacramento attorney.

Chief Criminal Deputy William E. Cook Jr. accompanied the defendant to court. Assistant District Attorney Dennis Keegan appeared for the state.

There were these other developments in the furor over escapes from the mental institution:

Gov. Earl Warren yesterday was asked by the Sonoma county grand jury to order the immediate transfer of 30 psychopathic delinquents with criminal records from Sonoma State Home to "an institution providing more security."

A telegram signed by Jury Foreman August Lepori, Petaluma, went jointly to the governor and to Dr. Lawrence Kolb, state director of mental hygiene, urgently requesting the action to insure the safety of "lives and property" in Sonoma county.

The telegram also asked the state officials to meet with a special committee of the grand jury on June 27 to discuss further recommendations that are being prepared by the members on security measures for the Eldridge institution.

The 19 member grand jury acted yesterday after hearing the findings of the special committee, headed by Mrs. Irving Shepard of Glen Ellen.

Abandoned Memorial Site May Be Put Up for Sale Monday

Sonoma county's three-acre veterans' memorial building site in north Santa Rosa appeared headed for the auction block today at the request of the city's veterans' memorial committee.

Supervisor Victor H. Anderson of Windsor said today the county board probably would take action to advertise the land for sale at their regular meeting Monday.

This would be in compliance with a request by George J. Rothang, chairman of the veterans' committee, who told the board yesterday his group had voted to abandon the present site in favor of another one already under consideration a short distance outside the city.

The present plot, bought by the supervisors for $30.000 in 1946, is in the block bounded by Ridgeway avenue and Benton street and by Glenn and Morgan streets.

Adequacy of the site has been subject of a six-month dispute.

MR. ROTHANG acknowledged Mr. Anderson said today he thought the supervisors would sell the present lot, at public auction as required by law, provided they could get back the $30,000 that was paid for it.

"If we don't get our money out of it, we will hang on to it," he said. Board Chairman George A. Kennedy of Sebastopol could not be reached today but has said on several occasions recently that he would oppose selling the site unless the county could get its $30,000 purchase cost back.

side the jurisdiction of the Santa Rosa planning commission, which he said appears opposed to the present one.

He gave official notice to the board of the new move in a resolution that he said was unanimously adopted by the committee Tuesday night.

THE RESOLUTION asserts that during the past six months the size and location of the site and building "apparently has not met with the approval of the Santa

Copyright © 2021 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.
Powered by Newspapers.com